

Ambassador Mull's Remarks
Re-Opening of the Kazimierz Pułaski Museum
May 16, 2014

Good afternoon. I am honored to take part in the re-opening of the Kazimierz Pułaski Museum. Thank you, Ms. Stefaniak, for showing us the fantastic renovations. The museum looks great. I hope that you and your staff like your new office space.

I extend my congratulations, as well, to the local and national officials who are here and who have supported the work of this museum and the renovations.

- Stanisław Karczewski, Deputy Speaker of the Senate;
- Łukasz Abgarowicz, representing Speaker of the Senate;
- Adam Struzik, Marshal of Mazovia;
- Dariusz Gizka, Mayor of Warka
- Marian Górski, Starosta
- Janusz Różycki, Deputy of the Grójec County
- Jacek Kozłowski, Voivode

Thanks, as well, to the EU Regional Development Fund for financing the renovations, including the installation of clever green technologies.

The renovated Pułaski Museum brings together everything that is great about modern Poland; your passion for liberty, your rich history and traditions, and your enthusiasm for innovation and progress – it's all here.

This museum is also a great symbol of Polish and American friendship. General Pułaski is our hero as well as yours. We all know his famous note to George Washington: "I came here, where freedom is being defended, to serve it, and to live or die for it." I am proud that Poles and Americans continue his legacy today, standing shoulder to shoulder in defense of freedom. It was in that spirit that five years ago President Obama enthusiastically signed a law granting honorary American citizenship to General Pułaski – only the seventh person in the entire history of the United States to receive such a distinction.

In a few weeks, President Obama will come to Poland to celebrate with you the 25th anniversary of elections that paved the way for Poland's remarkable transition from communism to a free, democratic and increasingly prosperous country. The U.S. supported the Solidarity movement and your aspirations to join NATO and the EU. And Poland, likewise, has demonstrated unwavering solidarity with the United States. Whenever America has faced danger or insecurity – in the Balkans, in Iraq, or in Afghanistan -- Poland has been there by our side. And now, as the transatlantic community confronts Russia's unacceptable aggression against Ukraine, we again stand together to protect our hard-earned freedoms and support Ukrainians' aspirations to be part of a free and democratic Europe.

I think that Kazimierz Pułaski would be immensely proud of Poland's leadership in the world today, and proud of Poland's ongoing, close partnership with the United States.

May generations of Poles and Americans continue to visit the Kazimierz Pułaski Museum and take inspiration from General Pułaski's dedication to the cause of liberty. Thank you.